

THIS REPORT CONTAINS ASSESSMENTS OF COMMODITY AND TRADE ISSUES MADE BY
USDA STAFF AND NOT NECESSARILY STATEMENTS OF OFFICIAL U.S. GOVERNMENT
POLICY

Voluntary _ Public

Date: 3/28/2011

Turkey

Post: Ankara

Carcass Meat Import Duty Increased

Report Categories:

Livestock and Products

Approved By:

Rachel Nelson, Agricultural Attache

Prepared By:

Samet Serttas, Agricultural Specialist

Report Highlights:

The customs tax on carcass meat increased from 30% to 45% according to a decision published in the Turkish Official Gazette on March 19, 2011.

General Information:

History of government reaction to high red meat prices

1. In response to high red meat prices, the Turkish Council of Ministers announced an import quota for 100,000 MT of live slaughter cattle and beef on April 30, 2010, valid until December 31, 2010. These quotas were allocated to the Meat and Fish Institute (EBK) via public tenders. EBK produced 50,000 MT of meat in 2010. They produced 24,000 MT of meat in 2009
2. The EBK import tenders did not result in a decrease in meat prices, so on August 7, 2010 the customs duty for imported live fattening cattle was decreased from 135% to 40% until 04/01/2011 and on August 13, 2010 and custom duty on live slaughtering cattle was decreased from 135% to 40% until 12/31/2010
3. Fattening cattle and slaughter cattle imports did not sufficiently decrease meat prices, so on September 19, 2010 the customs duty on live slaughtering cattle was decreased to 30% and for live lamb (less than one year old) the import duty was reduced from 135% to 20%. On the same day, the duty on red carcass meat was reduced from 225% to 30% until January 1, 2011
4. On December 22, 2010 the import quota which was allocated on April 30, 2010 to EBK was extended to December 31, 2011 and the lowered duties for red meat and fattening and slaughter cattle were extended.
5. In February 2011, domestic producers asked the government to either ban meat imports or increase the customs tax to 70% in order to protect them from competition from imported meat.
6. On March 19, the customs tax on carcass meat increased from 30% to 45%.

As of March, EKB used 60,000 MT of the quota and the remaining 40,000 MT will be used in the following months.

Activities of EBK in 2010	
Number of slaughtered imported live slaughtering cattle	129,108
Number of slaughtered domestic cattle	31,444
Number of imported slaughter cattle	129,108
Number of imported fattening cattle	5,118

The carcass meat price was 17 TL/kg in April, 2010 when high red meat prices started to be an issue and jumped to 20 TL/kg in September 2010. Due to the high amount of import of red meat, the carcass price decreased to 13.5 TL. The retail red meat price in September 2010 reached 35 TL/kg but is now 25 TL/kg. The current veal carcass import price is 13 TL/kg compared to 11 TL/kg in January 2011.

